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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-02 ACDA-05

NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00 SAJ-01

SS-15 NSC-05 OMB-01 IO-10 EB-07 COME-00 /079 W

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R 141710Z MAR 75

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 634

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 5133

USCINCEUR

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 1434

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO

SUBJ: MARCH 13 DRC MEETING: MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE

REF: A. USNATO 1134 (NOTAL)

B. USNATO 1242 (NOTAL)

C. STATE 052522 (NOTAL)

D. US CONTRIBUTION TO THE FORMULATION OF MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE,
DEC 3, 1974 (NOTAL)

E. USNATO 1318 (NOTAL)

F. STATE 055577 (NOTAL)

BEGIN SUMMARY: DURING MARCH 13 MEETING, DRC REVIEWED DRAFT
MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE PARAS 34 THROUGH 52 (REF A). DRC ACCEPTED
US-PROPOSED CHANGES TO SECTIONS ON MBFR AND ALLIANCE COOPERATION,
REVISED SECTION ON CHARACTERISTICS OF FORCES, AND FAILED TO REACH
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AGREEMENT ON FORMULA FOR DEFENSE RESOURCE GUIDANCE. US CIRCULATED
PROPOSED PARAGRAPHS ON LONG RANGE DEFENSE CONCEPT AND PRIORITIES.
DRC WILL DISCUSS PRIORITIES AND DIRECTIVES SECTIONS (PARAS 53-56)
AT MARCH 24 MEETING. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON VIEWS ON

RESOURCE GUIDANCE BY MARCH 20. END SUMMARY.

1. IN INTRODUCING MARCH 13 DRC DISCUSSION OF MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE, ACTING CHAIRMAN BRABAND ASKED REPS FOR SPECIFIC COMMENTS ON PARAS 35 THROUGH 55 OF DRAFT GUIDANCE (REF A) SO INT'L STAFF (IS) COULD DEVELOP AND CIRCULATE "FINAL" DRAFT BY EARLY NEXT WEEK. DRC CONSIDERED --IN TURN-- PARAS 35 THROUGH 52, DEFERRED DISCUSSION OF SECTIONS ON PRIORITIES (PARAS 53-55) AND US PROPOSAL FOR "DIRECTIVE" PARA 56 (REF B) UNTIL MARCH 24, AND AGREED TO DISCUSS "FINAL" DRAFT IN TOTO ON APRIL 8. REPS MADE NUMEROUS EDITORIAL CHANGES TO DRAFT PARAS 35-52; HIGHLIGHTS OF DISCUSSION FOLLOW:

2. CHARACTERISTICS OF FORCES (PARAS 34-35). DRC AGREED TO DELETE PARA 35 AND ASKED IS TO EXPAND PARA 34 TO COVER CHARACTERISTICS FOR LAND, SEA AND AIR FORCES AND LOGISTICS.

3. MBFR (PARA 36). AFTER LONG DISCUSSION ABOUT LAST SENTENCE OF PARA 36 (ACTING CHAIRMAN BRABAND VIGOROUSLY ARGUED FOR ITS RETENTION), DRC ACCEPTED US REP'S (BGEN BOWMAN) COMPROMISE PROPOSAL TO REVISE SENTENCE TO READ, "THESE SHOULD BE STUDIED BY THE NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES IN CONJUNCTION WITH NATIONS." (REF C). DRC ALSO ACCEPTED FRG REP'S (GEN SCHUNEMANN) NEW LANGUAGE FOR FIRST TWO SENTENCES WHICH DELETES SPECIFIC COMMON CEILING FIGURE OF 700,000 AND SPECIFIES NATO GUIDELINES AREA IN CONNECTION WITH MBFR NEGOTIATIONS.

4. RESOURCES (PARAS 37-41). DRC REPS COULD NOT REPEAT NOT AGREE ON PARA 39 GUIDANCE FOR NATIONAL DEFENSE SPENDING. DURING LENGTHY DISCUSSION, REPS RESURRECTED VARIOUS FORMULAS WHICH THEY HAD PROPOSED DURING DEC 1974 "KEY ELEMENTS" DISCUSSIONS AND SHOWED LITTLE WILLINGNESS TO COMPROMISE. AFTER UK REP (MACDONALD) SUCCEEDED IN REMOVING FIRST SENTENCE REFERENCE TO WARSAW PACT EXPENDITURES (DRC MADE IT A FOOTNOTE), US REP ASKED THAT DRC REVISE REMAINDER OF SENTENCE TO READ, "THIS CAN BE ACHIEVED BY A MODEST ANNUAL INCREASE IN REAL TERMS ON THE ORDER OF 3 TO 5 PERCENT PER YEAR." UK AND DANISH (ROSEN-CONFIDENTIAL

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THAL) REPS SOUGHT LANGUAGE WHICH SPECIFIED MAINTAINING DEFENSE SPENDING AT PRESENT REAL LEVELS. FRG REP SAID BONN "INSISTED" THAT DRC INSERT FOLLOWING LANGUAGE AFTER SECOND SENTENCE. BEGIN QUOTE:

COUNTRIES WILL ENDEAVOR TO KEEP THEIR DEFENCE EXPENDITURES IN REAL TERMS AT LEAST AT THE SAME LEVEL. THOSE COUNTRIES WHICH DEVOTE A SMALLER PROPORTION OF GNP TO DEFENCE SHOULD EITHER TRY TO REACH A SHARE OF 4.1 PERCENT OR TO SPEND A PER CAPITA AMOUNT ON DEFENCE WHICH IS NOT BELOW 200 US \$ RELATED TO 1974. END QUOTE. SEVERAL REPS SAID THAT DEFENSE MINISTERS HAD AVOIDED NATIONAL DEFENCE SPENDING ISSUE DURING DECEMBER MINISTERIALS AND THAT DRC WAS IN NO BETTER POSITION TO SOLVE PROBLEM NOW THAN DURING KEY ELEMENTS DISCUSSIONS LAST FALL.

FRG REP SUGGESTED DRC PLACE ALTERNATIVES IN BRACKETS FOR DEFENSE MINISTERS TO DECIDE DURING MAY MINISTERIAL. FOR NEXT DRAFT, DRC ASKED IS TO REVISE PARA 39 WITH VARIOUS ALTERNATIVES IN BRACKETS. MISSION COMMENT: DRC WILL FACE RESOURCES QUESTION AGAIN DURING MARCH 24 DISCUSSION OF PARA 56 (REF B). MISSION WILL HOLD FIRM ON CALL FOR 3-5 PERCENT ANNUAL REAL INCREASE AND BELIEVES FRG PROPOSAL ALSO STRENGTHENS GUIDANCE. THIS PROBABLY MEANS DRC WILL PLACE US AND FRG FORMULAS IN BRACKETS FOR FINAL GUIDANCE DRAFT. REQUEST WASHINGTON COMMENTS:
END COMMENT:

5. ALLIANCE CO-OPERATION (PARAS 44-49). DRC ACCEPTED MC REP (GEN TOMMASINI) PROPOSALS TO STRENGTHEN PARA 47 LANGUAGE ON STANDARDIZATION. US REP, SUPPORTED BY NETHERLANDS (CARSTEN) AND NORWEGIAN (LEINE) REPS, ASKED DRC TO REVISE PARA 49 TO CALL FOR INCREASED INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDS MADE AVAILABLE THROUGH REALIZATION OF ECONOMIES FROM RATIONALIZATION (REF D, PARA 34 E). DRC AGREED.

6. SUPPORT FROM CIVIL SECTOR (PARAS 50-52). DRC ACCEPTED SUBSTANCE OF NETHERLANDS REP'S PROPOSAL FOR PARAS 50-52 (REF E).

7. PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORT (PARA 52 BIS). DRC ASKED IS TO DEVELOP SHORT PARAGRAPH ON NEED FOR PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORT WHICH WILL PRECEDE SECTION ON PRIORITIES.

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8. LONGE RANGE DEFENSE CONCEPT. DRAWING FROM REF F, US REP CIRCULATED PROPOSED PARA 3 BIS; DRC AGREED TO CONSIDER PROPOSAL AT APRIL 8 MEETING IN CONJUNCTION WITH SECOND REVISED DRAFT SECTION ON LONG RANGE DEFENSE CONCEPT. TEXT OF US PROPOSAL FOLLOWS: BEGIN QUOTE:

3 BIS. REVIEW OF THE CURRENT INTERNATIONAL SECURITY SITUATION AND OF MAJOR RELATED TRENDS FOR THE FUTURE LEADS TO THE IN-ESCAPABLE NECESSITY FOR NATO TO MAINTAIN A CAPABILITY TO DETER AGGRESSION OR INTIMIDATION, AND IF DETERRENCE FAILS, TO DEFEND NATO TERRITORIES AND PEOPLES. THE MEMBERS OF NATO ARE SEEKING IMPROVEMENT IN EAST-WEST RELATIONS, BUT NEGOTIATIONS ARE SLOW, AND MEANWHILE THE MILITARY CAPABILITIES OF THE WARSAW PACT NATIONS CONTINUE TO EXPAND. CONTINUED MAINTENANCE OF NATO'S DEFENSE STRENGTH FURNISHES A SECURE BASIS FROM WHICH TO NEGOTIATE IN ADDITION TO PROVIDING A BAR TO AGGRESSION OR INTIMIDATION. END QUOTE.

9. PRIORITIES (PARAS 53-55). AT CLOSE OF MEETING, US REP CIRCULATED PROPOSED SUBSTITUTE FOR DRAFT PARA 55; DRC WILL CONSIDER US PROPOSAL DURING MARCH 24 MEETING. TEXT OF PROPOSED PARA 55 FOLLOWS: BEGIN TEXT:

55. AT LEAST FOR THE PERIOD UP TO 1982, AVAILABLE DEFENSE
RESOURCES SHOULD BE CHANNELLED, IN ORDER OF PRIORITY, INTO
SUPPORT OF:

A. STANDING FORCES, FULLY TRAINED AND EQUIPPED FOR
COMBAT, WHICH ARE AVAILABLE WITHIN THE PERIOD OF WARNING AND
THE FIRST FEW WEEKS OF HOSTILITIES;

B. OTHER STANDING AND MOBILIZABLE REINFORCEMENT FORCES
WHICH CAN BE MOVED QUICKLY TO AUGMENT THE ABOVE FORCES DURING
COMBAT;

C. NECESSARY SUPPORT CAPABILITIES THAT CANNOT BE PROVIDED
BY CIVIL RESOURCES. END TEXT.BRUC

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 18 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975NATO01434
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750398/abbrzitp.tel
Line Count: 176
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. USNATO 1134 (NOTAL) B. USNATO 1242 (NOTAL) C. STATE 052522 (NOTAL) D. US CONTRIBUTION TO THE FORMULATION OF MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE, DEC 3, 1974 (NOTAL) E. USNATO 1318 (NOTAL)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 APR 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <08 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MARCH 13 DRC MEETING: MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE
TAGS: MPOL, NATO
To: STATE
SECDEF INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS
USCINCEUR
USLOSACLANT
CINCLANT

CINCUSAREUR
CINCUSAFE
CINCUSNAVEUR
MBFR VIENNA
OFC OF PREPAREDNESS, GSA
Type: TE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006